VZCZCXRO3856 OO RUEHFK RUEHKSO DE RUEHKO #1617 0870818 ZNY SSSSS ZZH O 280818Z MAR 06 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0225 INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 1379 RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 1589 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 1443 RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0947 RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 4883 RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 7557 RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 0857 RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA PRIORITY 5368 RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE PRIORITY 8519 RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO PRIORITY 6552 RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY RHMFISS/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY RHEFHLC/HOMELAND SECURITY CENTER WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY

S E C R E T TOKYO 001617

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/27/2016

TAGS: KNNP PARM PREL MNUC EWWT PHSA

SUBJECT: CURTAILING USE OF NORTH KOREAN FLAG OF CONVENIENCE

THROUGH OFAC REGULATION CHANGE

REF: SECSTATE 46192

Classified By: POLITICAL MINISTER COUNSELOR W. MICHAEL MESERVE. REASON S 1.4 (b),(d).

- 11. (S) Embassy delivered points contained in reftel to Ministry of Foreign Affairs Northeast Asia Director Naoki Ito on March 23 and Ministry of Finance International Bureau Legal Office Deputy Division Chief Shunichi Fukushima on March 24, 2006. Both officials expressed appreciation to the United States Government for sharing this information with the Government of Japan and promised to consider ways Japan might take similar action.
- 12. (S) MOFA NE Asia Director Ito said he would also share the nonpaper with appropriate officials at the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transportation (MLIT) because of that ministry's authority over shipping and registry issues. MOF Legal Office Deputy Chief Fukushima said that although the Ministry of Finance generally does not have authority to act on "shipping matters," MOF's Foreign Exchange Office could potentially get involved in cases where contracts between Japanese citizens and DPRK registered ships involve foreign exchange.
- 13. (S) Embassy plans to follow-up with appropriate Japanese officials in MOFA, MOF and MLIT to elicit further responses and encourage Japan to take similar legislative or regulatory actions.

 SCHIEFFER